

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for treating ICU-associated hypocalcemia in a mammal to restore or maintain ionized serum calcium in said mammal which comprises administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a vitamin D compound.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the vitamin D compound is selected from compound having Formula I.

10 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the vitamin D compound is administered in an amount of from about 0.1 micrograms to about 2 milligrams per day depending upon the vitamin D compound administered.

15 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the vitamin D compound is administered daily to said mammal for about 1-4 weeks.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the vitamin D compound is combined with a non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable carrier prior to administration.

20 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the vitamin D compound is vitamin D₃ or a vitamin D₃ derivative.

25 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the vitamin D compound is 1,25-dihydroxy vitamin D₃.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the vitamin D compound is vitamin D₂ or a vitamin D₂ derivative.

30 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the vitamin D₂ compound is 1,25-dihydroxy-19-nor ergocalciferol.